



Chair - Larry Munger, Sutter County  
First Vice Chair - Dave Bradshaw, Modoc County  
Second Vice Chair - Diane Dillon, Napa County  
Past Chair - David Finigan, Del Norte County

President and CEO - Greg Norton  
Executive Vice President - Patricia J. Megason  
Chief Financial Officer - Karl Dolk

June 15, 2009

Ms. Clare Laufenberg Gallardo  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative Phase 2A Draft Report  
Comments submitted via email at [claufenb@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:claufenb@energy.state.ca.us)**

Dear Ms. Gallardo:

On behalf of the thirty member counties of the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC) I am pleased to submit the following comments for your consideration on the Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) Phase 2A Draft Report (Report) that was released earlier this month.

The following comments are singularly weighted on the need for recognition in the Report of the importance of local government involvement in the process, particularly as it relates to lands under local jurisdiction. RCRC strongly believes that local governments are a critical partner in the RETI process.

With those thoughts in mind, RCRC offers the following comments regarding the Report.

**Page 1 – 20.** The Report states that corridor designation must be coordinated among state and federal agencies and support access to, for example, BLM Solar Energy Zones, and Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan generation development areas, as well as to the most likely CREZ.

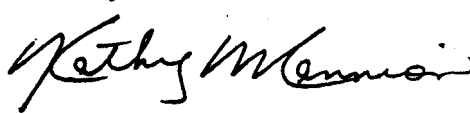
RCRC urges the addition of “local” agencies and recognition that there must be active state and federal coordination with “local” agencies when lands under local jurisdiction are involved. The development of General Plans is a lengthy, complex, and costly process. Through this process local governments establish a long-term plan for the lands within their jurisdiction. Federal and state consultation with local governments will help reduce potential conflicts with local General Plans. Finally, RCRC believes a

collaborative, deliberative and transparent process among all stakeholders will assist in developing better outcomes in the RETI process.

**Page 3 – 70.** The Report under Section 4 of Policy Recommendations reiterates the coordination issue that is discussed on page 1 – 20 of the report. Please see the prior comments associated with that issue area.

In conclusion, RCRC is appreciative of the opportunity to provide comments regarding the Phase 2A Draft Report and please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 447-4806 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathy Mannion". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathy" and last name "Mannion" clearly distinguishable.

Kathy Mannion  
Legislative Advocate